

[Translation]

Quota for Basti Station

3470. SHRI RAMPAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the unstarred Question No. 4164 on December 17, 1991 and state:

(a) the period of consideration of utilisation of quota; and

(b) whether there is a proposal to increase the above quota keeping in view the present position?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) The period of consideration of utilisation of quota was from September, 1990 to February, 1991.

(b) The utilisation of quotas are reviewed periodically and adjustments made wherever found justified and feasible. At present there is no proposal to increase the same at Basti.

[English]

Book Stalls at Station on Northern Railway

3471. SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bookstall facility is available at Alwar station on Western Railway and Phaphund station on Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, the number of such stalls on these stations separately and the terms of the agreements reached with the contractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-

LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One book stall each at Alwar and Phaphund is available. The terms of agreements are the same as in case of similar book stalls on Railway.

Rail Traffic Between Lucknow and Delhi

3472. SHRI JANARDAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct additional railway line and to start more trains on Delhi-Lucknow route in view of heavy density of traffic on this route; and

(b) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Assistance to Tribals

3473. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the wild life Act, 1991 has a very adverse impact on the economy of tribals who are living in the forests; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to provide necessary assistance to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b). Wildlife habitats in the country have depleted seriously over the years due to diversion of forests and over exploitation of forest produce for meeting the demands of undergrowing human population. In view of these facts a provision has been made in the Wild

Life (Protection) Amendment Act that no exploitation of any wildlife, which includes the vegetation forming the part of the habitat also, should be destroyed, damaged or exploited unless doing so is necessary for the improvement and better management of the wildlife in the Sanctuary. This would not only help in healing the scars of over exploitation of the fauna and flora in the past and restoring the life-supporting processes of eco-system, like soil-water conservation, but also generate benefits to the local people including tribals.

Prices of Imported Agricultural Products

3474. SHRI NIRMAL KANTI
CHATTERJEE:
SHRI HARADHAN ROY:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the prices paid for import of various agricultural products like wheat, cotton, etc. during the current year;

(b) how do these compare with wholesale and/or procurement prices in the country; and

(c) the price received for export of wheat during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) So far, the Government have neither imported any cotton during the current cotton year (September 1991- August 1992), nor any wheat during the current financial year 1991-92.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) During 1991-92 (Upto 29.2.92), exports of wheat by MMTC have been mostly

around US \$ 116 per tonne on C & F basis, while the exports of wheat by STC have been mostly around US \$ 95 per tonnes on FOB basis.

Increase in the Sale Price of Wheat

3475. SHRI BRAHMANAND MANDAL:
Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state the reasons for increasing the sale price of wheat through Public distribution System, inspite of the decision taken to import the wheat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): The Central issue price of wheat (Ex-FCI godown) for Public Distribution System has been increased w.e.f. 23.12.1991 with a view to partially absorb the increase in Costs due to revision of Minimum Support Price and handling costs etc.

Tenali-Guntur Circular Railway

3476. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted any proposed to operate circular Rail between Tenali- Vijayawada-Guntur in vijayawada Division for approval; and

(b) if so, the time by which the proposal likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.